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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7414
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 1769
RUEHWN/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE 0133
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE 2345
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 3313
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 2500
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE 1297
RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE 0221
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE 0001
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 8435
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE 0009
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA IMMEDIATE 7332
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE 9686
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE IMMEDIATE 1151
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO IMMEDIATE 7850
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUCPDC/NOAA NMFS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE


C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 002592


NOFORN
SIPDIS


STATE FOR EAP/J AND OES/OA – LPHELPS
STATE PASS CEQ
USDOC FOR NOAA/NMFS – RWULFF
BRIDGETOWN FOR ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA


E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/2019
TAGS: EFIS KSCA PREL SENV IWC JA
SUBJECT: WHALING: MOFA WORKING LEVEL THOUGHTS


REF: TOKYO 02588


Classified By: A/EMIN Paul Horowitz, reasons 1.4 b and d.


¶1.  (C/NF) Ministry of Foreign Affairs working level
officials would prefer to postpone any public announcement of
a U.S.-Japan commitment to conclude an agreement on whaling
by a date certain, and keep our bilateral negotiations
confidential until we are closer to an agreement, MOFA
Fisheries Division Director Yutaka Aoki told EST Chief
November 9.  Aoki said he is not casting doubt on our ability
to come to agreement, but wants to avoid being too optimistic
at this point.  Referring to a possible announcement at the
November 14 summit meeting in Tokyo, Aoki said a general
reference to both nations' desire to continue talks would be
acceptable, but there should be no specifics.  Aoki added
that U.S. cooperation in addressing Japan's complaints
against the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (SSCS) will
benefit the negotiations and help the GOJ to "easily sell"
any compromise to the Japanese public.
ROOS
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